

Partly cloudy tonight and tomorrow; warmer tomorrow; light southerly winds.

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## CHINESE BATTER OVER TREATMENT OF COUNTRYMEN

Serious Breach in Relations With America Threatened.

### SIR CHENTUNG PROTESTS

Representatives at World's Fair Subjected to Many Indignities.

The Times learns that a serious breach in the relations between the United States and China is threatened on account of the harsh manner in which the Chinese exclusion laws are working against Chinese of prominence who are coming to this country to make an exhibit at the St. Louis Exposition.

Two parties of prominent Chinese, fully armed with certificates from their government, and with papers endorsed by the American consul general at Shanghai, have already been held up at San Francisco and subjected to indignities there which to men of wealth and prominence in their own country has been sufficient to cause the bitterest resentment.

Government Embarrassed.

The situation is particularly embarrassing to this Government just now, in view of the questions involved in the Eastern war and the importance of retaining at least the passive friendship of China to American interests there at this juncture. For this reason, The Times' authority says, there has been a most vigorous effort on the part of the officers to smooth out the whole matter by means of diplomacy, and orders have been sent to the immigration authorities at San Francisco, with whom the trouble all started, not to give such a literal interpretation to the law and to refrain as much as possible from offending Chinese of prominence in a manner that has already been done.

In spite of this it is known that the mischief already done is still likely to bear fruit and that the bitterness which the people of China already feel at what they call being "hoodwinked" into making an exhibit at St. Louis in the belief that their representatives would have no trouble in getting into this country will very greatly be increased when the news of the inhospitable reception accorded to the first contingent of exhibitors percolates through to the court at Peking, engendering a feeling of hostility there the prospect of which the United States little realizes on account of the critical condition of Eastern affairs.

Sir Chentung's Stand.

The correctness of this view is particularly sustained on account of the strong stand which Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng, the Chinese minister here, is making against the St. Louis special exclusion laws and the hardships which they are working against his countrymen. Sir Chentung is known to have taken up the recent incidents in a vigorous manner, and not only lodged formal protests, but it is understood that he exchanges with the Bureau of Immigration, through the State Department, were of a sharpness in character seldom equaled in the usual diplomatic routine with which the State Department has to deal.

Not only did the minister denounce the laws themselves which were making it so disagreeable for his countrymen to get into this country and to reach the Chinese pavilion at St. Louis, but he also said to have touched upon the exclusion matter with a trenchant pen and his letters addressed to the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor were couched in terms which expressed his eminent disapproval of the extreme "tapu" that was causing the difficulty.

The minister is said to have taken exception to a charge made by Secretary Cortelyou that when the St. Louis Chinese exclusion laws were signed last July, he, the minister, gave his oral approval of them. Sir Chentung holds that while he did say orally to Mr. Cortelyou that the laws were a slight improvement on the old regulations, yet he believed that they would work an unnecessary hardship.

It develops now that not only do the Chinese object to the manner of their reception at the port of landing, but also to the very stringent regulations which they must observe on reaching the St. Louis Exposition grounds, where the law requires that they must be practically under the surveillance of the authorities, giving bonds of \$100 that they will not leave the grounds for more than a certain length of time, and making regular reports to the authorities when they return to the grounds.

Denied Pleasure Jaunts.

Also, they are very much restricted in the matter of hiring Chinese labor, and that when they arrive in this country they are not allowed to go on a sight-seeing tour, but must go straight to the exposition, where their stay, the Chinese merchants say, is almost equal to imprisonment. As the St. Louis fair is the first exposition in which the Chinese government has officially participated, this is the first time that there has ever been a Chinese exhibit at a great exhibition at St. Louis. Mr. Fong has arrived at the exposition grounds, but finds that during his time there he will be practically under imprisonment. He has lodged a protest with the minister, and through him it has been reported to the State Department.

## COMMITTEE DRAFTS REGULATIONS FOR PARTY PRIMARIES

Republicans Prepare to Hold Elections for Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention---Changes in the Rules.

The rules and regulations for the Republican primaries were completed today, and it was said this afternoon that unless something unforeseen occurs they will be adopted at the meeting of the committee, which was appointed to draft them tonight at the office of Chairman Chapin Brown. While the rules follow those of four years ago in some respects, they contain many radical departures. The main new points are as follows:

Recommendations are made that no convention be held, but that the judges and other candidates be elected directly by the voters.

It is provided that all of the voters must register their names and addresses at polling places before they cast their votes.

It has been decided that there shall be three judges from each of the twenty-two old legislative districts, all of whom are to be appointed by the rules committee. Names may be submitted by the various organizations. The judges will elect a chairman and secretary from among themselves.

Duty to Judges.

Judges must see that every voter registers, must count the votes, and certify to them, either as a whole body or by a majority.

A returning board of five members is provided for, to recount and certify to the correctness of the vote, which will be appointed by the committee.

An official ballot will be provided, on which the names of all the candidates must be printed.

No date is set for the primaries, but the committee recommends that they be held between May 2 and May 5.

Members of the committee are making every effort to have an honest election, and all of the changes made in the old rules have been made with that idea in view. The reason why the committee has decided to report against a convention is the unpopularity of the present political divisions of the city. The old legislative districts were laid out many years ago, when Washington was not much more than half the size it is now, and when the population was evenly distributed in them.

At the present time there are thousands of votes in some of the districts, while there are only a few hundred in the others. Each district, however, would be entitled to three delegates to a local convention, which would tally hundreds of votes in the thickly populated districts.

An Official Ballot.

An official ballot will be provided for the purpose of doing away with the confusion which in the past made repeating an easy matter.

Chairman Brown declined to discuss the rules today.

"It would hardly be fair for me to say anything," he said, "until the rules have been adopted and promulgated officially. They will probably be made public tonight."

Various organizations continue to endorse persons who would be delegates and alternates to the Chicago convention. It is admitted, however, by the more prominent leaders, that the strongest ticket in view at present is that headed by L. O. Simmons and W. C. Calver.

## RUSSIANS FIRE ON NEUTRALS AT NIUCHWANG

Officers in Command Thought Japanese Fleet Was Approaching.

### MISUNDERSTOOD SIGNALS

Two Chinese Seamen Aboard Merchantman Killed by Shell.

NIUCHWANG, Manchuria, April 11.—A misunderstanding of the customs flash-light signals caused great excitement at midnight last night.

The officers in command at the forts thought the Japanese were making an attack and opened fire on a fleet of pilot boats and merchantmen that were outward bound. Two Chinese seamen were struck by a shell and killed.

Several shots had been fired before the artillery officers discovered their mistake. The incident shows the mental strain caused by the fear of a Japanese attack, under which the Russians are laboring.

## JAPS IN FORCE ON YALU RIVER

PING YANG, April 11.—The Japanese now control the whole Korean bank of the Yalu River, and are in especially strong force at Wiju.

Forty foreign correspondents have arrived at Chinampo from Tokyo. It is expected that they will go north with the head-quarters staff.

LONDON, April 11.—A dispatch to the "Express" from Tientsin says it is reported from Mukden that two trains containing a large number of Russians who were wounded in an engagement on the Yalu River have passed through Mukden on the way to Harbin.

## JAPANESE MOVE ON PORT ARTHUR

ROME, April 11.—A dispatch from Chefoo says that seventeen battleships and cruisers, twenty steamers, and twelve torpedo boat destroyers have passed Chefoo, apparently bound for Port Arthur.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 11.—Persistent rumors are current that the Port Arthur squadron has captured several Japanese transports en route to Chefoo, laden with troops and ammunition.

PARIS, April 11.—An unofficial telegram, indicating that fighting has occurred, as was rumored last night, has reached St. Petersburg.

A dispatch to the "Petit Journal" from St. Petersburg says that Admiral Makaroff telegraphed that another attempt to surprise Port Arthur has been foiled. A number of Japanese vessels suddenly appeared within the range of the searchlights, but they withdrew after reconnoitering.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Echo de Paris" says that the members of the naval general staff believe that Admiral Makaroff, perceiving the Japanese squadron, returned to Port Arthur, his idea being to try to induce the Japanese to follow him under the guns of the forts.

## CHINA IS READY FOR UPRISING

"I am informed by high Peking officials that the feeling in Chinese official circles resembles that in 1900 before the Boxer uprising," says the Chefoo correspondent of the "New York World," under date of April 10.

"The dismissal of Prince Su and the transference of the seals to Na Tung indicates that a policy chemical to foreigners is fomenting in the capital. The pro-Japanese party, including Prince Ching and Chu Lu, is using its best endeavors to obtain the dismissal of officials who have friendly leanings toward Europeans. General unrest among the people proves the grave possibility that China's neutrality will be broken despite official assurances to the contrary."

Chinese are arriving in shiploads from Niuchwang. It is not likely that Japan will be able to land there if the place is defended. The water is shallow, the river has been blocked, mines have been laid off the port, and sixty-five guns for the forts have arrived.

## GENERAL JIMINEZ ARRIVES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 11.—Among the passengers on board the steamer Philadelphia, which arrived today from Venezuela and Porto Rico, was the Dominican rebel general, Juan J. Jimenez, who fled from the victorious forces of President Morales. He embarked at San Juan.

## JAMES WATSON PLACED ON TRIAL AS EMBEZZLER



JAMES M. A. WATSON, JR.  
On trial in Criminal Court, No. 1, for the alleged embezzlement of \$73,000 from the District of Columbia.

Motion to Consolidate Counts Overruled by Justice Pritchard.

Wife of Prisoner Sits Attentive Listener Beside Him.

Regular Panel Exhausted Without Securing Full Jury.

James M. A. Watson, formerly employed as a clerk in the Auditor's office, was today in Criminal Court 2 before Justice Pritchard, for embezzlement of \$73,000 of the money of the government. The prisoner was smiling, in charge of a shal, E. L. Turner. He, however, soon changed to a serious expression when the trial was unfavorable to him.

Mrs. Watson was not in the trial of her husband. A minute after the motion to consolidate the counts against him, she room. She was dressed in deep mourning, and was seated next to where her husband was seated. She was given a seat on his left. She seemed impressed with the seriousness of the occasion, and entered into a whispered conversation with the prisoner.

## Books Not Privileged As Second Class Mail

Supreme Court Confirms Ruling of Postmaster General and Sustains Lower Tribunals.

Books cannot go through the mails as second class matter, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled today. The decision was in what is called the "second class mail matter cases," brought by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. of Boston, publishers of the Riverside Literature Series, Ormond G. Smith et al., publishers of the Columbia Library, Detective Library, and other so-called "Masters in Music."

The victory is with the Postmaster General, who contended for the exclusion of these books, which the publishers pronounced to be magazines or periodicals. For sixteen years those publications have had the second class privilege, which is now denied them.

Chief Justice Fuller and Mr. Justice Harlan dissented.

When Watson entered the court at 10 o'clock he did not appear to be much worse for his more than ten months' confinement in the District Jail. He was dressed in a suit of black cloth, and was clean shaven. His long confinement did not seem to have depressed his spirits to any extent. His countenance was bright and he seemed to be alive to what was going on, and paid the closest attention to the legal set with which his trial was opened. When the ruling of the court was against him, however, it was plain to see that he was greatly disappointed. It was then that he took on a serious look, which he maintained until the selection of the jury.

When the selection of the jury was begun Watson moved up close to A. S. Worthington and frequently advised with him relative to the acceptability of a talesman.

Consolidation of Counts.

When the court was convened, Stuart McNamara, of counsel for Watson, pressed the motion made last Friday, asking that the three indictments against the prisoner be consolidated, and that he be put on trial on them jointly as one indictment.

It was argued that the indictments are practically the same in the way they refer to the same transactions, the same witnesses would be called to testify in reference to all the indictments, and on the general ground that it would involve unnecessary hardship to Watson if he is called to answer to them separately. Arguments along the same line were made by D. W. Baker and Mr. Worthington in support of the motion.

Difference in Indictments.

The motion was opposed by Assistant District Attorney Hugh T. Taggart and Charles H. Turner, who contended that there is a great deal of difference in the matters referred to in the several indictments, and that a consolidation of them would result in great embarrassment to the jury in coming to a conclusion relative to the questions involved.

Two of the indictments are drawn under the old law, and one under the new code which went into effect in January, 1901. Justice Pritchard, in overruling the motion to consolidate the three indictments, said that the defendant would be put on trial on the one based on the code, and said that the other two should be consolidated for the purposes of trial.

COMMISSIONER KOHLSAAT MEETS THE PRESIDENT

Charles W. Kohlsaad, special commissioner for Sweden, Norway, and Denmark to the St. Louis Exposition, this morning introduced to the President, Herr Paul Lindenberg and Herr Hermann Knaur, of Berlin, who are en route to St. Louis, and wished to pay their respects.

Herr Lindenberg represents a syndicate of German newspapers, and Herr Knaur is a member of the large building firm of Bosau & Knaur. Both are interested in the concession on the Pike known as the "German and Tyrolean Alps."

The selection of the site on Lafayette Square, the approval of the statue offered, and the manner of its erection are all to be under the control and direction of a commission, consisting of the Secretary of War and the chairmen of the Committees on the Library of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Fifty-eighth Congress. These two members of Congress are Senator Wetmore, of Rhode Island, and Representative McCleary, of Minnesota.

## German Troops Defeat Herreros in Hard Battle

Kaiser's Troops Were Repeatedly Repulsed in Attempt to Storm Enemy's Position. Succeeded After Long Fight.

BERLIN, April 11.—A report reached Berlin today of a hard-fought battle between German troops and rebel Herreros at Ongamien, German Southwest Africa. The Germans, who were commanded by Governor General Leutwein, numbered 1,000. The rebels outnumbered them three to one.

The Germans stormed the rebel position, which was a strong one, and were repeatedly thrown back. The attack was renewed and after eight hours' stubborn fighting the enemy were driven from their position. The Herreros retreated to the eastward.

The German loss was four killed and twelve wounded. The Herreros were slaughtered by the wholesale, over 200 dead being counted on the battlefield.

PETWORTH WILL NOT GET EXTRA TRACKS

Engineer Commissioner Biddle Fails to See Need of Improvement at Present.

For the present the Petworth citizens cannot hope to have additional street car tracks laid in their section of the District.

Their recent public hearing before the District Commissioners, in which they asked that the local authorities recommend favorable action by Congress on one of the bills now pending providing for the extension of the Eleven Street car line to Richmond Street, has resulted only in General Harries, superintendent of the road, submitting to the Commissioners a plan by which he hopes to facilitate travel on the Ninth Street and Brightwood Avenue lines.

Engineer Commissioner Biddle today recommended to the Board of District Commissioners that the Petworth Citizens' Association be informed that General Harries has submitted his plan, and that, "until it is shown that such service is not giving satisfaction, there does not seem to be any good reason for further action."

## PASSES BILL TO ERECT KOSCIUSKO STATUE

Senate Favors Plan of Polish Americans to Honor Countrymen Who Fought for Republic's Liberty.

In the Senate this afternoon Mr. Wetmore, for the Committee on Library, presented a favorable report on the bill providing for the erection in Lafayette Square of a statue of Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko. In presenting the report, Mr. Wetmore asked that it be given immediate consideration. This was agreed to and the bill was passed.

The statue is intended to be one of the series of memorials to great warriors to adorn the four corners of Lafayette Square. The remaining statue is to be that of Baron Steuben.

The statue is to be erected at the expense of the Polish-American organizations and of the Polish-American people of the United States generally, "as an expression of their loyalty and devotion to their adopted country, for the liberties of which Kosciuszko so nobly fought."

The offer has been made through Theodore M. Helinski, president of the central committee of the Polish-American organizations of the United States.

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